

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 10-26 and that claims 4-7 and 9 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have added the allowable features of claim 9 and intervening claim 8 to independent claim 1 thereby clearly placing claims 1-7 in condition for allowance.

Because all claims are now clearly in condition for allowance, applicants respectfully request an early Notice of Allowance.

Art Rejection

Claims 1-3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Waldron et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

This rejection is now moot in view of the addition of allowable features from claim 9 to independent claim 1 from which claim 2, 3 and 8 depend. Therefore, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the art rejection.


Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael R. Cammarata (Reg. No. 39,491) at the telephone number indicated below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0308 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By


Michael R. Cammarata
Reg. 39,491

CIENA Corporation
1201 Winterson Road
Linthicum, MD 21090
Phone: (410) 694-5763
Fax: (410) 865-8001
Pager: (877) 502-5736

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 8 and 9 have been canceled.

The claims of the invention has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A polishing fixture assembly for a fiber optic cable connector polishing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of segments holding a plurality of different types of fiber optic cable connectors, a portion of each different type of fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment; and

a hub interconnecting with each of said plurality of segments,

wherein the portion of each fiber optic cable connector extending below its corresponding segment is polished by a corresponding polishing pad of the polishing apparatus, and

wherein a polishing medium aids polishing between corresponding fiber optic cable connectors and corresponding polishing pads.